THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHR! SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) the Working Group, which has been set up by the Government to go into the codification of the concept of minimum wages, listing out guidelines based on critical evaluation of various parameters and also study the problems in the implementation of minimum wages, paid a visit to Orissa besides Chhattisgarh during 18-21 June, 2003 to examine the problems in implementation of minimum wage at the ground level. The Report of the Working Group has not yet been submitted.

Impact of disinvestment and closure of small scale units on employment

2030. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of disinvestment and closure of small scale units on employment; and

(b) the action taken to create more jobs to safeguard the interests of the work force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Privatization is expected to improve the efficiency of operations in the disinvested PSU's and thereby contribute to economic growth and it will have a beneficial impact in the long run on employment.

As regards Small Scale Industry, the employment has gone up by about 3.9% in 2002-03 over 2001-02.

(b) Creation of 50 million employment opportunities at the rate of 10 million per year are being targeted during the Tenth Plan period.

Labour laws

2031. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether obsolete labour laws have largely affected the growth in various sectors;